OLD FIELDS CHAPEL (Oldfields)
Hughesville
Private

Old Fields, a chapel of Trinity Parish, was built in 1769 and is one of the county's seven remaining examples of eighteenth century Protestant ecclesiastical architecture. A simple, rectangular brick building of Flemish bond construction, it has later lancet arches over the original window openings and twentieth century brick additions at both ends. The interior of the chapel was renovated in the early nineteenth century and again in this century.

A small cemetery surrounding the chapel contains the graves of several British soldiers who died while encamped here after landing at nearby Benedict in 1812.

1 NAME

HISTORIC

OLD FIELDS CHAPEL   (OLDFIELDS)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Prince Frederick Hughesville Road (MD 231)

CITY, TOWN		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Hughesville	X VICINITY OF	1st

STATE	COUNTY
Maryland	Charles

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
_DISTRICT	_PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	_AGRICULTURE	_MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	_COMMERCIAL	_PARK
_STRUCTURE	_BOTH	_WORK IN PROGRESS	_EDUCATIONAL	_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
_SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	_ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
_OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	_GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC
	_BEING CONSIDERED	_YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		_NO	_MILITARY	_OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Episcopal Diocese of Washington   Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN		STATE, zip code
Washington	_ VICINITY OF	D.C.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #:

Folio #:

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS,ETC.   Charles County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Charles Street (P. O. Box B)

CITY, TOWN	STATE
La Plata	Maryland 20646

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN   STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
_EXCELLENT	_DETERIORATED	_UNALTERED	X_ORIGINAL SITE
X_GOOD	_RUINS	X_ALTERED	_MOVED DATE_____
_FAIR	_UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Old Fields Chapel is a rectangular, eighteenth century brick structure with twentieth century brick additions at both ends.

The main body of the chapel is of Flemish bond construction, with five lancet arched windows framing modern, three-part stained glass casement sash trimed by nineteenth century moldings, the length of both side elevations. Although the window openings are original to the eighteenth century building, they were altered in the early nineteenth century by the installation of the lancet arches. The arches are constructed of contrasting dark red brick and have small square "drops" at their bases. Both side walls of the church bear evidence of being raised to their present height by the addition of several courses of brick, an alteration that appears to have been done prior to the introduction of the window arches. The middle bay of the south side elevation was formerly a wide doorway that was bricked in when the arches were installed.

In the 1960's the chapel was again altered by the addition of a one bay entrance vestibule enclosing the original west end entrance. Above the vestibule, in the gable of the main block, is a small lancet a_ ,ed window, a conversion over an earlier opening. Other changes include the partial rebuilding of the east end wall and part of the south side wall between the fifth window and the southeast corner, the construction of a new brick sanctuary, choir room and chancel, and the addition of a small, mission-style brick belfry at the front of the roof ridge. It was also during the 1960's that the existing, highly stylized stained glass windows, designed by Irene and Rowan LeCompte, were installed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

'ERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLUGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X_RELIGION
—1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
—1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
X —1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X —1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X —1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X —1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES   BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Old Fields Chapel and Cemetery is located on a tract of land
identified as Parcel 213, Map 36, Charles County Tax Maps
(revised January 1976).

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE   COUNTY

STATE   COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

J. Richard Rivoire

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Charles County Planning Department	July, 1978

STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Charles County Courthouse	645-6537

CITY OR TOWN	STATE
La Plata	Maryland

PS- 1108

CH-112   FIRT   55%   P.74

CHAS-112
OLD FIELDS CHAPEL, View
From S.W. J.Rivoire, 1978